

Support School Referrals to LIDDAs for Students with IDD

HB 4716 by Manuel | SB 2513 by Hinojosa

This bill will require school districts to refer students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to their Local IDD Authority (LIDDA) for services and public benefits, including home and community based services (HCBS) waiver programs.

- When students receiving special education services graduate high school between the age of 18 to 22, having access to HCBS waiver programs can make - or break - their future.
- Without needed services and ongoing supports, young adults with IDD can regress and face institutionalization (e.g. state hospitals, jails, prisons).
- All HCBS waiver programs include employment assistance and supported employment, which are essential for young adults seeking competitive, integrated employment and/or postsecondary education for occupational skills training.
- Under current law, school districts are not required to bring up LIDDA services and HCBS waiver waiting lists until age 14, or when a student is exiting ECI.
- LIDDAs help people of all ages with IDD access services and supports in Texas. There are 39 LIDDAs across the state of Texas

HCBS waiver programs have waits up to 16 years, so it is very important for children with IDD to get on the list for HCBS waivers as soon as possible.

Supported by:

Autism Speaks
Family to Family Network
Texas Autism Society
Texas Parent to Parent
The Arc of Texas

